

(I)

wherein R₁ is NO₂ or CN; R₂ is CH₃, C₂H₅ or CF₃; and X is hydrogen, o-F, m-F, p-F, m-OCH₃, m-OH or p-Cl. Preferably the guanidine compound is 1-(α-ethylbenzyl)-3-nitroguanidine, which exists in (+) and (-) isomeric forms. More preferably the guanidine compound is (+)-1-(α-ethylbenzyl)-3-nitroguanidine. --

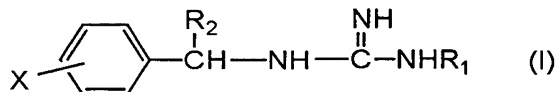
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 3, 11, 20, and 22 and please add Claim 23.

--23. A method according to Claim 9 wherein the 1-(α-ethylbenzyl)-3-nitroguanidine is (+)-1-(α-ethylbenzyl)-3-nitroguanidine.--

Please amend Claims 1, 10, 13, 15, and 19 to read as follows:

- (1) 1. (amended) A method of defoliating plants comprising applying to plants an effective amount of a first active ingredient selected from the group consisting of (+)-isomers, (-)-isomers and mixtures thereof of substituted nitroguanidine and cyanoguanidine compounds of the formula (I):



wherein R₁ is NO₂ or CN; R₂ is CH₃, C₂H₅, or CF₃; X is hydrogen, o-F, m-F, p-F, m-OCH₃, m-OH or p-Cl; and the salts, tautomers and optical isomers thereof;

- (2) an effective amount of a second active ingredient selected from the group consisting of thidiazuron, diuron, ethephon, protoporphyrinogen oxidase inhibitor herbicides; and
- (3) optionally, an adjuvant;

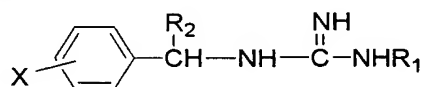
wherein the weight ratio of the first active ingredient to the second active ingredient is from about 1:0.05 to about 1:200.

AS 10. (amended) A method of inhibiting leaf regrowth in cotton comprising applying to cotton an effective amount of a guanidine compound that is (+)-1-(α -ethylbenzyl)-3-nitroguanidine or the salts or tautomers thereof.

pe 13. (amended) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the guanidine compound is in the form of a composition comprising the a guanidine compound and an adjuvant selected from crop oil concentrate, vegetable oil concentrate, ammonium sulfate and combinations thereof

A7 15. (amended) A method of inhibiting leaf regrowth in cotton comprising applying to cotton

- (1) an effective amount of a first active ingredient selected from the group consisting of (+)-isomers and (-)-isomers of guanidine compounds having the formula:



wherein R_1 is NO_2 or CN ; R_2 is CH_3 , C_2H_5 or CF_3 ; and X is hydrogen, o-F, m-F, p-F, m- OCH_3 , m-OH or p-Cl;

- (2) an effective amount of a second active ingredient selected from the group consisting of thidiazuron, diuron, ethephon, protoporphyrinogen oxidase inhibitor herbicides, ammonium sulfate and combinations thereof; and
(3) optionally, an adjuvant.

- AS 19. (amended) A composition comprising
(1) a first ingredient that is (+)-1-(α -ethylbenzyl)-3-nitroguanidine; or the salts or tautomers thereof; and
(2) a second ingredient selected from the group consisting of herbicides, adjuvants, plant growth regulators, desiccant, boll opening compounds, pesticides, fertilizers and defoliant other than the first ingredient;

AS
Ant wherein the composition is in the form of a liquid comprising the first ingredient and the second ingredients at amounts sufficient to provide from about 0.03 to about 0.5 lb/acre of the first ingredient and from about 0.005 to about 10 lb/acre of the second ingredient.
